

THE PHENIX, THE CLEANER.

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BY JULIAN A. SELBY,
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Another Letter from Hon. Benjamin
F. Perry.

COLUMBIA, S. C.,
November 30, 1866.
Charles W. Woodward, Esq., Phila-
delphia.

MY DEAR SIR: In your reply to
my letter on the constitutional amend-
ment, you express the opinion that
"this measure will be dropped by the
radicals for one which they deem
more humiliating to the people of
the South, viz: universal suffrage."
Hon. Horace Greeley (the most
prominent candidate for the United
States Senate from the State of New
York) writes me as follows: "In my
judgment, the true basis of settle-
ment of all our troubles is universal
amnesty, with impartial suffrage. In
other words, I would have all disa-
bilities because of rebellion and be-
cause of color, utterly and absolutely
abolished; and (coming to the point)
I strongly hope and trust that a set-
tlement on this basis will be made at
Washington this winter." This he
wrote in reply to a letter I addressed
to him, in which I put the question
as to whether the Southern delegates
to Congress would be admitted, in the
event of their respective States
adopting the amendment.

I do not believe, as it is rumored,
that President Johnson intends to
abandon his policy of reconstruction,
or that he will attempt to interfere
with any of the States in regulating,
as they may see proper, the right of
suffrage. Nor do I see any reason to
hope that the present or the next
Congress will accept of any compro-
mise without universal suffrage for
all the negroes in the Southern
States. I am, likewise, unwilling to
believe that the Southern people will
adopt any compromise which will
disfranchise one-fifth of the white
votes, for the purpose of enfranchising
a few hundred negroes in the
Southern States.

Impartial suffrage may be accom-
plished by permitting all persons,
black and white, to vote who are
twenty-one years old. This the
Southern people will never consent
to, as it would degrade the right of
suffrage and demoralize the Govern-
ment and society. It may be accom-
plished by restricting the right of
suffrage in the Southern States to
such persons, black or white, who
have a property qualification and can
read and write. This would disfran-
chise about one-fifth of the present
number of white voters, and confer
the right of suffrage on a few hun-
dred negroes who own the property
qualification and can read and write.
Are the Southern people willing to
disfranchise and degrade one-fifth of
themselves, and elevate a few hun-
dred or a few thousand negroes above
this fifth in all political rights and
privileges? I do not think so.

According to the last census, there
are over 200,000 white males over the
age of twenty-one in the Southern
States who cannot read and write.
Many thousands of this number
fought gallantly throughout the whole
war for the right of self-government.
Are they now to be voluntarily de-
prived by their comrades-in-arms of
this inestimable right, and reduced to
a level with their former slaves? It
may be that their freedmen, having
the qualification of property and can
read and write, will be placed above
them! They will have the mortifica-
tion of seeing themselves excluded
from the polls, whilst their former
slaves are permitted to vote!

Every Southern man knows that
there are a great many men of sub-
stance and character in the Southern
States who cannot read and write,
and especially old men. They are
men of intelligence, patriotism and
excellent judgment, and as capable of
exercising prudently the right of suf-
frage as any one, no matter how well
educated he may have been. They
have enjoyed this right, too, through-
out their manhood, and valued it as
sacred and inestimable.

It is well known, too, that there are
hundreds of thousands of young men

in the Southern States who were gal-
lant soldiers and officers in our army,
destitute of the property qualification
requisite to entitle them to vote.
They have been well educated, and
are the sons of many of our most
respectable citizens, and some of them
have been colonels and generals in the
Confederate army. Are they, with
all their respectability, virtue, edu-
cation and distinction, to be disfran-
chised by this compromise and placed
upon an equality with the negro, or
below him, as to the right of suf-
frage?

At the organization of the State
Governments, during, and immedi-
ately after the American Revolution,
there were a great many restrictions
imposed on the right of suffrage. The
example of Great Britain had its in-
fluence on the judgment of our an-
cestors in regulating this right. But
as time progressed, and republi-
can principles were better understood
and more highly appreciated, these
restrictions were all swept away, ex-
cept in one or two States, by a more
enlightened, liberal and just public
opinion. All free white male per-
sons, over the age of twenty-one,
have been allowed to vote in all the
Southern States, for many years past,
who are citizens. No other quali-
fication is required. In my opinion,
this is right and proper, and should
be adhered to, as sacred to republican
principles. Its abandonment at this
time, and the disfranchisement
of two or three hundred thousand
voters, would be a sad grievance.
They are liable to taxation, to work
on the roads, do military and police
duty, and, when necessary, to defend
their country at the sacrifice of their
lives.

If the proposed compromise simply
enfranchised negroes, who could
read and write, and had a property
qualification, without disfranchising
white persons, it might, with reason
and propriety, be accorded to by the
Southern States. There is sound
philosophy, public policy and justice
in permitting, as they do in some of
the Northern States, negroes to vote
who have a property qualification,
and can read and write. It would be
a stimulus to their good conduct and
elevation, morally and intellectually.
It would be a safety-valve to their
superior intelligence and industry.
Such negroes in the Northern States,
as a friend of mine recently informed
me, "generally vote with the least
radical party." In North Carolina,
when such negroes were allowed to
vote in that State, Mr. Stanley de-
clared in the House of Representa-
tives, "always voted with the gen-
tlemen." In Connecticut, very re-
cently, this class of negroes voted
against conferring general suffrage
on their whole race. They said, "let
them show themselves worthy of suf-
frage, as we have done, and they can
obtain it."

The proposed constitutional amend-
ment disfranchises all in the South-
ern States who had ever taken an oath
to support the Constitution, and af-
terwards aided or countenanced the
war in any way. The unanimous
opinion of the South has been that
such terms were dishonorable and
self-degrading. I would ask, in all
 candor and sincerity, if those of im-
partial suffrage are not equally so?
If it be dishonorable to deprive two
or three hundred thousand prominent
men in the Southern States of the
right of holding office, is it not equal-
ly dishonorable and degrading, to de-
prive the same number of humble,
though worthy men, who have fought
through our struggle for self-govern-
ment, of the right of participating at
all in the government under which
they have to live? In my opinion,
it is worse. They who are sacrificed
by the amendment are allowed to
vote; but they who are to be sacrificed
by "impartial suffrage," are de-
prived of this right altogether. This
exclusion, too, is to apply only to
the Southern States. In the North,
the same class of persons are allowed
to exercise the right of suffrage.

I know it has been urged that this
qualified impartial suffrage will only
exclude those who are not so well
qualified to vote, and thereby im-
prove our representatives and civil
officers. Dr. Franklin illustrated his
views on this subject by stating a
case. In his day and time, there was
a property qualification of \$350 for a
voter in Pennsylvania. A man had a
jackass worth this sum, and he was
allowed to vote. Before the next
election, his jackass died, and he
could not vote. "Querrie," said the
doctor, "did the man or the jackass
vote?" There are thousands, as every
one knows, who are poor, and yet
more wise, and virtuous, and patri-
otic, than those who are rich.

The last State Convention in South
Carolina abolished all property qual-
ifications for holding office, as well
as of voting. There is at this time a
great reformation in progress in Eng-
land as to the extension of the right
of suffrage. And can it be that we

are now disposed to turn back the
clock of civilization and republicanism
one hundred years, and commence
again where our ancestors
started in 1776?

I have said that I do not believe
the present or ensuing Congress will
accept anything but unqualified neg-
ro suffrage from the Southern States.
This alone will give them, as they
suppose, power and influence in the
Southern States, and enable them to
control the Government in all time
to come. "Impartial suffrage" will
not do this, as it would exclude, with
few exceptions, the whole negro race.
Horace Greeley proposes too kind a
mode, and is too generous and liberal
in his views, to be any longer the
representative and exponent of the
ultra radical party. This honor has
devolved on the Chief Justice, and
such men as Gen. Butler, Sumner
and Stevens.

In order to induce the Southern
people to adopt "impartial suffrage,"
it is proposed to connect with it a
general and universal amnesty. This
is certainly a most desirable boon for
the Southern States. But I do not
see that they are in any great peril.
Almost every one has been pardoned
by taking the amnesty oath, or by
special application for Executive clem-
ency. There is no danger of prosecu-
tions for treason or confiscation,
whilst President Johnson remains in
office. No matter what unconstitutional
legislation may pass Congress,
it cannot be enforced, except through
the President. Exclusion from Con-
gress will continue; but this is no
great, vital sacrifice for the Southern
people to make. Their members once
voluntarily withdrew from Congress,
and it has been six years since we
were represented there. We should
be in a hopeless minority, at present,
if our members had their seats, and
they could do nothing for their con-
stituents or the country. We should
devote all our energies to the material
improvement of the South, and aban-
don politics, until the times are more
propitious and there is a returning
sense of justice at the North.

It is possible that a national con-
vention of all the States, composed
of their best and wisest and greatest
men, might revise our Federal Con-
stitution, and adjust all difficulties
between the two great sections of the
republic. If such a proposition was
made by the North, the South would
accede to it. This grand tribunal
would command the respect of both
sections, and be worthy of settling
all difficulties between thirty-six sover-
eign States. The association of
wise, patriotic and virtuous men,
from all parts of the country, con-
vened for the purpose of restoring
peace and harmony to the nation,
would have a salutary influence. No
danger could possibly result from
such a convention, for their action
would have to be submitted to the
States for their adoption, and be rat-
ified by three-fourths of them, before
it becomes a part of the Federal Con-
stitution. If two-thirds of the State
Legislatures will make the applica-
tion for such a convention, the Con-
stitution makes it imperative on Con-
gress to order its assembling.

I do not, never have, and never
will despair of my country. There
is too much intelligence, virtue and
patriotism in the American people,
for the rule of passion and revenge
to continue always. The growth,
prosperity and happiness of one sec-
tion of this great Republic is most
intimately blended with and depen-
dent on that of the other. Like the
limbs of the human body, when one
is broken, paralyzed or injured, it
must affect the whole system. This
truth will soon be seen and felt at
the North. I am, with great respect,
yours, &c.,
B. F. PERRY.

Charity Fair.

CERTAIN ladies of Columbia have asso-
ciated themselves together for the
purpose of raising funds to clothe and
educate a limited number of orphan chil-
dren. To carry this design into execution,
they propose to hold a CHARITY FAIR in
Columbia, commencing on TUESDAY
EVENING, December 4, and continuing
during the week, at Janney's Hall.

An attractive feature of the Fair will
consist of a series of Tableaux, represent-
ing various scenes at home and abroad.
Donations from the city and country are
earnestly solicited, and may be delivered
to Mrs. THEO. STARK, Miss JANNEY or
to any of the Managers.

Several valuable articles, among which
is a splendid Piano, will be disposed of at
raffle.

Nurses positively not admitted.
Price of admission 50 cents.

MANAGERS.
Governor Orr, Mayor Stark,
Gen. Wade Hampton, Dr. John LeConte,
W. F. DeSaussure, D. B. DeSaussure,
L. D. Childs, J. P. Thomas,
J. G. Gibbs, Edward Hope,
Wm. B. Stanley, John Waties,
Dr. John Fisher, Col. Wm. Wallace,
Wm. C. Swaffield, A. R. Taylor,
J. C. Janney, Dr. Jos. LeConte,
F. G. DeFontaine.

Dec 1

CANDLES! CANDLES!
ONE HUNDRED boxes Sperm and Ada-
mantine CANDLES. Just received
and for sale by
J. & T. R. AGNEW.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

SWEET OPOPONAX FROM Mexico! New,
very rare, rich and fashionable perfume.
The finest ever imported or manufactured
in United States. Try it and be convinced.

A NEW PERFUME! Called Sweet Oponox
from Mexico, manufactured by E. T. Smith
& Co., New York, is making a sensation
wherever it is known. Is very delicate,
and its fragrance remains on the handker-
chief for days.—*Philad'a Evening Bulletin.*

SWEET OPOPONAX! New Perfume from
Mexico. The only fashionable Perfume
and ladies' delight.

SWEET OPOPONAX! The only elegant Per-
fume. Is found on all toilets, and never
stains the handkerchief.

SWEET OPOPONAX! Is the sweetest Ex-
tract ever made. Supersedes all others.
Try it once; will use no other.

SWEET OPOPONAX! Ladies, in their morn-
ing calls, carry joy and gladness, when
perfumed with Sweet Oponox.

ARTIFICIAL EYES.—ARTIFICIAL
HUMAN EYES made to order and inserted
by Drs. F. BAUCH and P. GOUGELMANN,
(formerly employed by Boissoneau, Paris.)
No. 399 Broadway, New York. Oct 17 ly

COLGATE'S HONEY SOAP.
This celebrated Toilet Soap, in such
universal demand, is made from the
choicest materials, is mild and emol-
lient in its nature, fragrant and scented,
and extremely beneficial in its action
upon the skin. For sale by all Druggists
and Fancy Goods Dealers. March 28 ly

NEW SCHOOL.

THE undersigned, formerly
Principal of Columbia Female
Academy, has opened a FE-
MALE SEMINARY in Colum-
bia, at corner of Camden and
Pickens streets, where all the
branches essential to female education are
thoroughly taught, including Ornamental
Branches and Modern Languages. A few
BOARDERS will be received into his fam-
ily. For terms, &c., apply at his residence.
Dec 1 mo. W. MULLER.

Fine Chewing and Smoking Tobacco.

6 BOXES TEMPTATION.
ATLANTIC CABLE.
10 boxes different brands—Zephyr Puff,
Virginia Kilm Dryd, Piney Woods, Green
Seal, Kilkilnick and other brands. Whole-
sale and retail.
Nov 25 JOHN C. SEEGER & CO.

Hams! Hams!

1 TIERCE PIG HAMS—small.
" " Sugar-cured HAMS—strictly
prime.
Nov 21 JOHN C. SEEGER & CO.

"CONGAREE RESTAURANT!"

Next door West of the Post Office.

TREVET & BERAGHI
WOULD respectfully inform their
friends and the public in general
that they have opened a RESTAURANT at
the above place, where the very best of
everything in the way of eating and drink-
ing can be obtained at short notice.

CREAM ALE on draught.
LUNCH every day from 11 to 1 o'clock.
Fresh OYSTERS constantly on hand.
July 10

RESTAURANT!

The Pollock House!
THIS new and complete establishment
has been recently opened, and men-
tione will find everything connected with
the house in the very best order. MEALS
served at short notice. Private dinner and
supper rooms attached.
OYSTERS, FISH, GAME and MEATS
prepared in every style.
The best of WINES, LIQUORS, ALE,
etc., constantly on hand.
Choice SEGARS and TOBACCO.
FREE LUNCH every day at 11
o'clock. T. M. POLLOCK, Proprietor.
Nov 27

Gunny Bagging.

10 BALES GUNNY BAGGING, extra
weight—24 pounds.
50 coils MANILLA ROPE.
1 bale BAGGING TWINE.
The above in store at reduced rates.
A. L. SOLOMON,
Second door from Shiver House,
Oct 18 On Plain street.

HARDWARE.

IRON, STEEL.
NAILS, POTWARE.
Tin'd and Jap'd HOLLOWWARE.
Carpenters' and Blacksm's TOOLS.
SCALES.
AXES, S. W. Collins' and other
brands.
PAINTS, OILS and GLASS.
In store and for sale LOW by
FISHER & LOWRANCE.
Nov 9

POTATOES! POTATOES!

25 BBLS. choice Northern POTATOES.
20 bushels choice Sweet Potatoes, at
\$1 per bushel. Just received and for sale
by
J. & T. R. AGNEW.

Flour and Buckwheat.

FIFTY bbls. FAMILY FLOUR.
200 bbls. medium and low-priced Flour.
10 bbls. New Hulled Buckwheat. Just
received and for sale by
Nov 13 J. & T. R. AGNEW.

Almonds, Raisins, Currants.

JUST received, a complete assortment of
J. ALMONDS, RAISINS, CURRANTS,
PRUNES, CITRON, &c.
Nov 7 J. & T. R. AGNEW.

Flour and Buckwheat.

FIFTY bbls. FAMILY FLOUR.
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Nov 7 J. & T. R. AGNEW.

To the Public in General!

WE RECEIVED THIS DAY BY EXPRESS,

300 YARDS ALL BOILED HEAVY BLACK SILK, 28 inches, \$2.00.
500 " FRENCH MERINOES, very fine, \$1.00.
1,000 yards FIGURED DELAINES, only 25c.
1,000 " STRIPE GINGHAMS, very cheap, 20c.
1,000 " CALICOES, 12c. ALSO,
1,000 " Colored COBURGS, damaged on the voyage from New York, which will
be sold as low as 20 cents per yard—worth 60 cents.

We Will Not be Under-sold.

S. H. MYERS & CO.,

SUCCESSORS OF ABELES, MYERS & CO.

Dec 2

Cheaper than Ever!

DOES THE UNDERSIGNED OFFER THE FOLLOWING

GOODS!

PRINTS, at 12½ cents a yard.
Brown and White SHIRTING, at 16 cents a yard.
Ladies' CORSETS, from 75 cents upward.
6-4, 8-4 and 10-4 TABLE DAMASK, at reduced prices.
10-4 SHEETING, at 85 cents.
French Merinoes, from \$1 upward.
Silk Striped Poplins, All-wool DeLaines,
Black Dress Silk, at \$1.25 a yard.
Black Alpaca, Bombazines,
White Linens, Ladies' Shawls,
Debege, Linen Towels, Stockings, Trunks,
Linen Handkerchiefs, at 15 cents a piece.
Ladies' and Gentlemen's BOOTS and SHOES.

The Largest Assortment of CLOTHS and CASSIMERES, at Lowest Prices!

A full assortment of Ladies' Cloak Trimmings, Bugle Trimmings,
Ladies' Gauntlets, Blankets, Flannels,
Balmoral Skirts, of the best quality,
Cloth for Ladies' Cloaks, 6-4 wide, at \$2 a yard.
A full assortment of Variety Goods, which is offered at

25 per cent. less than any other Merchant in this city offers them.

J. MENDEL,

Dec 1 Main Street, two doors above E. Stenhouse's.

R. & W. C. SWAFFIELD

WILL SELL

Clothing at Cost!

OWING to the GREAT SCARCITY OF MONEY, and to the fact that we
have not the room to handle the LARGE STOCK OF CLOTHING that we
have on hand. Call and see for yourselves.
Nov 27 BEDELL'S ROW.

NEW STORE

AND NEW STOCK.

Clothing. Hats, Caps

AND
GENT'S FURNISHING GOODS!
At Wholesale and Retail!
AT THE OLD STAND, NO. 57 AND 59 MAIN STREET, COLUMBIA.

THE undersigned informs his fellow-citizens, that having rebuilt and thoroughly
refurnished his store, he is prepared to show a COMPLETE STOCK of GOODS in
the CLOTHING LINE, to which he invites attention. His assortment comprises,
in part:

COATS, OVER-COATS,
SCARFS, CRAVATS,
TRAVELING BLANKETS,
TRUNKS, VALISES,
PANTS and VESTS,
HATS, CAPS,
SHAWLS, COLLARS, &c.
HAT BOXES, &c.
Also, a splendid assortment of

BOY'S AND YOUTH'S CLOTHING.

STINGS on hand, made up at short notice.
CASSIMERE
SUITS at \$40,
SUITS at 45,
SUITS at 50,
SUITS at 60,
SUITS at 75.

R. C. ANDERSON,

Oct 25 Agent.

Flour and Buckwheat.
FIFTY bbls. FAMILY FLOUR.
200 bbls. medium and low-priced Flour.
10 bbls. New Hulled Buckwheat. Just
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